

Remarks:**A. Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-32 were pending in Applicants' Response to the Restriction Requirement submitted with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 18, 2003. Claims 1-32 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 33-47 have been added. Support for these new claims can be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. Claims 33-47, therefore, are currently pending.

B. Summary of the Interview with the Examiner

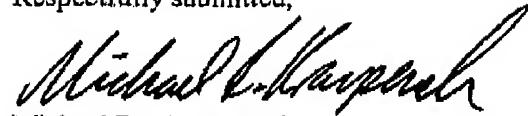
On November 25, 2003, Applicants' representative, Michael Krawzsenek, and Examiner Goldberg conducted a telephonic interview. During the interview, Applicants' representative confirmed Applicants' election of the Group I invention drawn to a sample collection device, as exemplified by previous claims 1-32. Applicants agreed to submit a revised set of claims directed towards the sample collection device.

C. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants request that this case proceed to substantive examination. It is believed that no fee is due for filing this Second Preliminary Amendment. However, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to this document, consider this paragraph such a request and authorization to withdraw the appropriate fee from Fulbright & Jaworski Deposit Account No. 50-1212/GENS:008US.

Should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or suggestions relating to this case, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned Applicants' representative at (512) 536-3020.

Respectfully submitted,



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